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By: *Linda E. Hastings*
LINDA E. HASTINGS

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Attorney Docket No.: NECF 18.591

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Takaaki NAGAI

Serial No.: 09/837,734

Filed: April 17, 2001

Title: **NON-VOLATILE SEMICONDUCTOR STORAGE
APPARATUS AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF**

Examiner: Douglas W. Owens

Group Art Unit: 2811

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

ELECTION

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on May 21, 2002, the period for responding thereto having been set to expire after June 20, 2002, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-8, for prosecution at this time. Applicant reserves the right to file continuing application(s) based on claims 9-18. Early examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on
Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael I. Markowitz
Reg. No. 30,659

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